

FINDER



NRL's Electronic Warfare Division is working with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and General Atomics to develop the first tandem unmanned air vehicle (UAV) system in the USAF inventory as part of the CP2 ACTD for the European Command. The FINDER UAV will be carried on a wing pylon of a specially modified USAF Predator UAV, then released remotely to descend to a low level and collect samples of a plume that systems aboard the Predator have indicated may contain chemical weapons agents. Under human supervision at the Predator Ground Control Station (GCS) the two UAVs will then cooperate to track the plume and gather meteorological and chemical data that will be used to predict the plume's path and resulting threatened areas. After two hours, the FINDER will then follow Predator to a designated recovery site, where FINDER will autoland to be recovered by friendly forces. Initial deployments were conducted in June 2002.

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